

Feb. 19, 1967

John Rohrbaugh

John Reinhart Rohrbaugh came to Philadelphia, Pa. on ship Ranier; Henry Browning, Master, from Rotterdam, last from , England, Sept. 20, 1749 with passengers from Hanan, Wirtemberg, Darmstadt and Eisenberg. He was past twenty-one years of age and single. John Rohrbaugh purchased 400 acres of land in Upper Tract, on the South Branch in Hardy County, Aug. 18, 1761, married Elizabeth Harness.

Born of John & Elizabeth Harness Rohrbaugh:

1. Jacob (Elizabeth Idleman, dau. of Conrad Idleman, this record says she was born at Baden, on the Rhine, Germany)
2. Barbara (Christian Simons) Descendents live in Upshur & Lewis Counties.
3. Anthony (Elizabeth Simons, b. Jan. 6, 1770, d. Mar. 6, 1837 in Upshur Co., dau. of Geo. & Mary Simons)
4. John, Jr. (Nancy Catherine Idleman, dau. of Conrad Idleman) she b. at Baden on the Rhine, Germany) Descendents live in Barbour & Grant Co.
5. Magdalene (Anthony Spher, b. 1774 on the Rhine)
6. Elizabeth (Jacob Harness) b. Apr. 26, 1778, m. Oct. 14, 1801, d. July 11, 1858.
7. Susanna (Jacob Idleman, son of Conrad Idleman)
8. Anna (John Meyers)
9. Judith (Francis Daniel Idleman, b. Oct. 21, 1778, d. Dec. 3, 1856, son of Conrad Idleman) b. Dec. 10, 1785, m. May 5, 1808, d. Mar. 24, 1862.

Simons Note:

Elizabeth Simons born Jan. 6, 1770, died Mar. 6, 1837 in Upshur County. She was a dau. of George & Mary Simons, who came with his brothers, sisters and aged father, Nicholas Simons, born 1676, and his uncle Michael Simons, born 1679, and his family from Rotterdam to Philadelphia on Aug. 27, 1739, all traveling first class passengers, and each and every member of the family had his or her personal servant; had purchased two thousand acres before coming to America; but after seeing America, the wilderness, many members of these families returned to England. (Anthony Rohrbaugh was my gr. gr. grandfather.--Gertrude Smith) She lived at Clarksburg, W. Va.

There were four children of the John Rohrbaugh family and four children of the Conrad Idleman family that married. Perhaps, because the country was sparsely settled, and these families came to know each other, because there was no one else to become interested in, or no one else that neither family would have cared to mate with a family of a lower class. Then too, both families were German, and all history and statistics will tell us that the Germans were very clannish, and tried to preserve the German culture in America.